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Aruba's English news leader and ultimate guide to paradise

Illinois to ban advertising for guns allegedly marketed to kids and militants

By John O'Connor  
Associated Press  
SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Illinois will soon outlaw advertising for firearms that officials determine produces a public safety threat or appeals to children, militants or others who might later use the weapons illegally, as the state continues its quest to curb mass shootings. Gun-rights advocates say the plan, which Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker has pledged to sign into law, is an unreasonably vague decree that violates not only the constitutionally protected right to own guns, but also free speech. The prime exhibit in Democratic Attorney General Kwame Raoul's effort is the JR-15, a smaller, lighter version of the AR-15 semi-automatic rifle advertised with the tag line, "Get 'em One Like Yours."



Continued on Page 2

Semi-automatic guns are displayed for sale at Capitol City Arms Supply, Jan. 16, 2013, in Springfield, Ill. (AP Photo/Seth Perlman, File)

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## Illinois to ban advertising for guns allegedly marketed to kids and militants

Continued from Front

The maker says it is deliberately made smaller, with added safety features, to fit younger shooters as they learn from adults how to safely maneuver such a weapon. Raoul says it's marketed to children and potentially entices them to skip the adult supervision and start firing.

Opening the door to court challenges is part of ongoing efforts by Democratic lawmakers who control the Statehouse to eliminate gun violence, made more complicated by the U.S. Supreme Court's expansion of gun rights a year ago. Pritzker also signed a ban on semi-automatic weapons this year, a law that gun-rights advocates continue to challenge in federal court.

Illinois would be the eighth state to approve legislation that allows such lawsuits against firearms manufacturers or distributors. The legislation comes after the deadliest six months of mass killings recorded since at least 2006 — all but one of which involved guns.

Raoul finds precedent in the 25-year-old settlement with large tobacco companies and more recently with advertising for vaping.

"We've gone after the marketing that has historically driven up the consumption by minors for



**Illinois Senate President Don Harmon, D-Oak Park, speaks during a news conference, Nov. 29, 2022, in Springfield, Ill.**

(AP Photo/John O'Connor, File)

those products that are harmful to them," Raoul said. "The firearms industry shouldn't be immune to the standards that we put on other industries."

Except that other industries don't produce constitutionally protected products, counters the National Shooting Sports Foundation, an industry trade association that has filed federal lawsuits in nearly every state that has approved a similar law.

"They're infringing on your Second Amendment rights by taking away your First Amendment rights," foundation spokesperson Mark Oliva said.

Without specific legislation, states are largely barred from legal action by a 2005 federal law that prohibits lawsuits blaming manufacturers for the later criminal use of a purchased gun.

It sprang from mayors in the late 1990s who sued gun-makers for creating a public nuisance, such as Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley's \$433 million action in 1998, which the Illinois Supreme Court tossed out in 2004.

But the federal law does allow legal action if a state explicitly names firearms and conduct by their manufacturers in state law, which is what Raoul's plan would do. He won over lawmakers by showing them advertising they decided was over the line.

"Some of the ads I've seen are just stomach-turning," Don Harmon, of Oak Park, who sponsored the legislation.

The ad for the JR-15, a smaller, lighter .22-caliber rifle, was among them. An emailed statement from the manufacturer, Wee 1

Tactical, said the gun has safety features found on no other gun.

"The JR-15 .22 youth training rifle is for adults who wish to supervise the safe introduction of hunting and shooting sports to the next generation of responsible gun owners," the statement said. "Parents and guardians wanting to pass on this American tradition have been purchasing small caliber, lighter youth training rifles for decades." Raoul said he doesn't have any gun-makers "in the so-called crosshairs. ... It's not our interest to go fishing." A violation of the law could draw a \$50,000 fine, but more important to the attorney general is the possibility of a court-ordered injunction. Still, Raoul hopes the law deters questionable practices and no legal action is necessary.

New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Washington, California, Hawaii and Colorado have adopted similar plans. The shooting sports group has filed federal lawsuits in all but Colorado and none has been settled. Despite the court action, the laws are in effect everywhere but New Jersey, which has barred implementation for members of the shooting sports group, according to the Brady Campaign, which has intervened on behalf of defendants in each case.

Connecticut has no exemption from the federal law, but courts decided the state's statutes were written broadly enough to allow a \$73 million lawsuit settlement with Remington early last year for families of the victims of a 2012 mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown.

Other campaigns Raoul has tracked see manufacturers linking themselves to the military or law enforcement, claiming they are the Pentagon's top choice for a sidearm or long gun — regardless of whether they are or not. This, he said, suggests such claims attract those with ideas about forming illegal private militias.

That notion — and the question of advertising toward children — were included in an executive order from President Joe Biden in March to stop violence. It included expanded background checks and use of red-flag laws. Biden also encouraged the independent Federal Trade Commission to produce an analysis of how gun-makers "market firearms to minors and ... to all civilians, including through the use of military imagery."

The White House referred questions about the study to the FTC, where spokesperson Douglas Farrar declined to comment. □



**Monica Lee sits outside her Braxton, Miss., home, Friday, Aug. 4, 2023, and expresses her feelings about the investigation that led to six white former Mississippi law enforcement officers pleading guilty Thursday to federal civil rights offenses against two Black men who were brutalized during a home raid that ended when an officer shot one of the men in the mouth. Lee's youngest son, Damien Cameron, 29, who had a history of mental illness, died in July 2021 after being violently arrested by two Rankin County deputies, including Hunter Elward, one of the former officers who pleaded guilty Thursday.**

(AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis)

**By Michael Goldberg**  
Associated Press

**JACKSON, Miss. (AP)** — Monica Lee sat outside

## Racist abuse by Mississippi officers reveals a culture of misconduct, residents say

her parents' home, where a former Mississippi sheriff's deputy pummeled her son, who died hours later in the hospital. It was a sweltering afternoon in Braxton — the same town where, in a separate episode, six white law enforcement officers tortured two other Black men in January, shaking seasoned federal prosecutors, elected officials and ordinary people to their core.

The officers, one of whom also was involved in the violent episode with Lee's son two years prior, pleaded guilty Thursday to a long

list of federal civil rights charges. Lee believes former Rankin County Deputy Hunter Elward is responsible for the 2021 death of her son, Damien Cameron, who was accused of vandalizing a neighbor's home while living with his grandparents. A grand jury declined to indict Elward and he was never convicted of a crime. The brazen acts of violence to which he would plead guilty two years later were made possible because of a police culture that has festered for years, Lee said.

Five deputies from the Rankin County Sheriff's Office, some of whom called themselves "the Goon Squad," and an officer from the Richland Police Department admitted to taking part in a racist assault against Michael Corey Jenkins and Eddie Terrel Parker. The men never thought their abusers would pay for their crimes.

"It's really a shock, but I enjoyed every moment of it," Parker said, recounting the former officers being led out of a federal courtroom in shackles. □



## 8-year-old Chicago girl fatally shot by man upset with kids making noise, witnesses say

Associated Press

**CHICAGO (AP)** — An 8-year-old Chicago girl riding a scooter was fatally shot in the head by a man who was upset over noise, witnesses said.

"It just didn't make sense. None of it made sense," a neighbor, Megan Kelley, told the Chicago Sun-Times. "Everybody in the community would just tell him they are just kids having fun playing. Just let them be."

The shooting happened Saturday night in Chicago's Portage Park neighborhood. Police were at the suspect's apartment building Sunday, interviewing people and collecting evidence, hours after the death of Sarabi Medina.

"Before he shot her, he



Police investigate the apartment building of the shooter at the scene where an 8-year-old Chicago girl was killed in Portage Park, Sunday, Aug. 6, 2023.

(Anthony Vazquez/Chicago Sun-Times via AP)

had said something about them being too loud," Kelley said.

After the shooting, the gunman was tackled by Sarabi's father and shot during a struggle, according to a police report. He was taken to a hospital.

"He ran over there, football-tackled this guy," community activist Andrew Holmes said.

Chicago police spokesman Tom Ahern said prosecutors were reviewing the case for charges Monday. Stuffed animals and sunflowers were placed at the base of a tree near the shooting scene.

"With great sadness, we are devastated at the loss of another young life," the Chicago school district said in a statement. □

## Justice Department helping Ukraine in war crimes investigations, Attorney General Garland says

By Lindsay Whitehurst and Nicholas Riccardi

Associated Press

**DENVER (AP)** — The U.S. Justice Department is cooperating with the International Criminal Court and supporting Ukrainian prosecutors carrying out war crime investigations, Attorney General Merrick Garland said Monday as he reaffirmed his department's aid more than a year after the Russian invasion.

Congress recently allowed for new U.S. flexibility in assisting the court with investigations into foreign nationals related to Ukraine, and the Justice Department will be a key part of the United States' cooperation, Garland said.

"We are not waiting for the hostilities to end before pursuing justice and accountability. We are working closely with our international partners to gather evidence and build cases so that we are ready when the time comes to hold the perpetrators accountable," he said in a speech to the American Bar Association in Denver.

He appointed a prosecutor to serve at a center opened last month in The Hague to support nations building cases against senior Russian leaders for the crime of aggression.

International Center for the Prosecution of the Crime of Aggression will not issue indictments or arrest warrants for suspects but will instead support investigations already underway in Ukraine, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland.

The ICC does not have jurisdiction to prosecute aggression in Ukraine because Russia and Ukraine have not ratified the Rome Statute that founded the court, though Ukraine's prosecutor general has said they plan to join.

The United States also is not an ICC member state. Since the Treaty of Rome, which established the court, took effect, successive U.S. administrations beginning during Bill Clinton's presidency have taken a largely hands off approach toward the ICC due to concerns it might open investigations and prosecute

American soldiers or senior officials. Although it is not a member of the court, the U.S. has cooperated with the ICC in the past on war crimes issues, notably during the Obama administration when Washington contributed evidence to the investigation into atrocities allegedly committed by the Lord's Resistance Army in Uganda and surrounding states in east Africa.

However, American antipathy toward the tribunal reached new heights during the Trump administration when it imposed sanctions on the former ICC chief prosecutor and several aides for pursuing investigations into alleged war crimes committed by U.S. troops in Afghanistan and Iraq and Israeli service-members in the West Bank and Gaza.

The Biden administration rescinded those sanctions shortly after taking office and its decision to actively assist the court with Ukraine investigations marks another step toward cooperation with the ICC.

The Justice Department



U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland makes a point as he speaks to members of the house of delegates of the American Bar Association at the group's annual meeting Monday, Aug. 7, 2023, in Denver.

(AP Photo/David Zalubowski)

is giving wide-ranging assistance to Ukraine, from training on prosecuting environmental crimes to help developing a secure electronic case-management system for more than 90,000 suspected atrocity crimes. Garland also touted the \$500 million seized assets and over three dozen indictments the department has handed down to enforce sanctions.

"Ukraine must do three things simultaneously: it must fight a war; it must investigate war crimes; and it

must ensure that a just society comes out on the other side of the war," he said.

The Justice Department is "honored to stand with them." Garland also encouraged more private lawyers to volunteer to help Ukrainian victims.

"We do not know if anyone involved in their deaths were held accountable," Garland said. "The families of the victims of the current atrocities in Ukraine deserve to know what happened to their loved ones. They deserve justice." □



# Attorneys for 3 last-known survivors of 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre appeal dismissed reparations case

By Sean Murphy  
Associated Press

**OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)** — Attorneys seeking reparations for three living survivors of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre filed an appeal in the case with the Oklahoma Supreme Court and said a district court judge erred in dismissing the case last month. The appeal was filed Friday on behalf of the last known living survivors of the attack, all of whom are now over 100 years old. They are seeking reparations from the city and other defendants for the destruction of the once-thriving Black district known as Greenwood.

"For 102 years... they've been waiting," said Damario Solomon-Simmons, an attorney for the three, during a press conference Monday on the steps of the Oklahoma Supreme Court building. "They've been waiting, just like every other victim and survivor of the massacre, for just an



**Damario Solomon-Simmons speaks at a news conference in Tulsa, Okla., on June 2, 2021.**  
(Stephen Pingry/Tulsa World via AP)

opportunity to have their day in court." Solomon-Simmons, who brought the lawsuit under Oklahoma's public nuisance law, said he wants the high court to return the case to district court for discovery and for a judge to decide the case

on its merits. District Court Judge Caroline Wall last month dismissed the case with prejudice, dashing an effort to obtain some measure of legal justice by survivors of the deadly racist rampage. Defendants in the case include the City

of Tulsa, the Tulsa Regional Chamber, the Board of County Commissioners, the Tulsa County Sheriff's Office and the Oklahoma Military Department. A spokesperson for the City of Tulsa, Michelle Brooks, declined to comment, citing the pend-

ing litigation. A Chamber of Commerce attorney previously said the massacre was horrible, but the nuisance it caused was not ongoing. The lawsuit contends Tulsa's long history of racial division and tension stemmed from the massacre, during which an angry white mob descended on a 35-block area, looting, killing and burning it to the ground. Beyond those killed, thousands more were left homeless and living in a hastily constructed internment camp. The city and insurance companies never compensated victims for their losses, and the massacre ultimately resulted in racial and economic disparities that still exist today, the lawsuit argued. It seeks a detailed accounting of the property and wealth lost or stolen in the massacre, the construction of a hospital in north Tulsa and the creation of a victims compensation fund, among other things. □

# Ex-student accused in California stabbing deaths is mentally unfit for trial



**Carlos Dominguez appears in Yolo Superior Court in Woodland, Calif. on June 20, 2023, with a court-appointed public defender Dan Hutchinson.**

(Hector Amezcua/The Sacramento Bee via AP, Pool, File)

By Janie Har  
Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — The criminal case against a former Northern California university student accused of several stabbings is on hold after prosecutors agreed that he is incompetent to stand trial for charges related to the attacks,

which killed two people, wounded a third and terrorized a peaceful college town.

The judge dismissed jurors in Carlos Dominguez's competency trial Monday, which would have been the fifth day of testimony, after county prosecutors informed the court last week

they no longer planned to fight the defense by Dominguez's attorney that he was not mentally fit for trial. A determination of incompetency means Dominguez cannot currently understand court proceedings, assist his attorney in his defense and understand his own status in the criminal proceeding.

Yolo Superior Court Judge Samuel McAdam last week ordered the defendant to receive medication over Dominguez's objections, ruling he was a danger to himself and others without it. Three medical experts testified that Dominguez is schizophrenic.

Dominguez will go to a state hospital when a bed becomes available and once his competency is restored, the criminal trial will resume, said Jonathan Raven, the county's chief deputy district attorney.

Raven said in an email Monday that prosecutors disagreed with the initial doctor's report and how she reached her conclusions regarding Dominguez's competency. Prosecutors previously said Dominguez was "toying with the system" and should face a criminal trial.

They dropped their challenge after hearing new information at trial and the court's order to initiate involuntary medication proceedings, Raven said.

Dominguez had been a third-year student at the University of California, Davis majoring in biological sciences until April 25, when he was expelled. Stabbings near campus began shortly after. He is charged in the deaths of a 50-year-old homeless man and a 20-year-old UC Davis student. A homeless woman who was attacked in her

tent survived.

The attacks terrified the community. Businesses closed early and some students were too scared to attend even daytime classes as their parents pleaded with them to return home. Dominguez was arrested May 4, a week after the first body was found, near the location of the second attack.

Dominguez was in court Monday wearing a green safety vest. Previously he has spoken out loud to say he was guilty and wanted to apologize and that he did not want an attorney. His appointed attorney Dan Hutchinson, a Yolo County deputy public defender, said in court that Dominguez would not eat, shower or speak much while in jail. He still believed he was a student at UC Davis and insisted he was not ill, his lawyer said. □



## NATO and the EU send aid to Slovenia after floods that killed at least 6 and left many homeless

**LJUBLJANA, Slovenia (AP)**

— The European Union and NATO began sending urgent aid Monday to Slovenia after severe flooding over the weekend affecting two-thirds of the small European country killed at least six people and left hundreds homeless.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg spoke by phone with Slovenian Prime Minister Robert Golob on Monday, expressing his sympathy and the trans-Atlantic alliance's strong solidarity with Slovenia, a NATO statement said.

"I express my deepest condolences to the people of Slovenia for the loss of life and widespread devastation caused by this weekend's floods," Stoltenberg said.

On Sunday, Slovenia and Cyprus activated a European Union Civil Protection Mechanism because of the floods in Slovenia and wildfires in Cyprus that have affected those EU states.

The EU is sending to Cyprus two Canadair firefighting airplanes from the EU's Civil



A flooded area is seen in Crna na Koroskem, Slovenia, Sunday, Aug. 6, 2023.

(AP Photo)

Protection Pool stationed in Greece. Greece is also sending 20 tons of liquid retardant via the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

France is sending two excavators with engineering units to Slovenia, while Germany is sending two prefabricated temporary bridges and two excava-

tors with the accompanying staff, the European Commission said.

Bulgaria and Croatia have also offered support, including helicopters, excavators, prefabricated bridges and engineering teams. The United States has also deployed staff to Ljubljana to assess the situation and de-

termine urgent humanitarian needs.

The German Interior Ministry said it was sending a team from the Federal Agency for Technical Relief to Slovenia. The first team, specialized in rescue, was expected to arrive Monday and additional teams were expected to follow.

Even Ukraine, which is trying to repel a full-scale invasion by Russia, offered help.

"The Ukrainian side will, in line with its capabilities, support its friends and partners that find themselves in trouble, just as Slovenia is supporting the Ukrainian nation and helping us divert Russian aggression," Oleg Nikolenko, spokesperson for Ukraine's Foreign Ministry, wrote on social media. The floods were caused by torrential rains Friday that caused rivers to swell swiftly and burst into houses, fields, villages and towns. Slovenia's weather service said a month's worth of rain fell in less than a day.

Experts say extreme weather conditions are partly fueled by climate change. Parts of Europe have seen record heat and wildfires this summer.

Entire villages are still under water in Slovenia. Crops have been destroyed and cars stuck in mud. Major highways in parts of Slovenia have been closed. Many bridges have also collapsed. □

## Lecturers in the UK refuse to mark exams in labor dispute, leaving thousands unable to graduate

**By Sylvia Hui**

**Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — Hafsa Yusuf was supposed to graduate last week. The 21-year-old English literature major had spent 200 pounds (\$255) on graduation gown rental, photography and tickets for her family to attend the ceremony.

But just two weeks before the big day, Queen Mary University of London sent her an email saying she couldn't graduate because of industrial action taken by academic staff across the U.K.

Lecturers at some 140 universities have refused to mark exam papers and coursework, in an escalation of a simmering dispute over pay and working conditions.

"Because of the marking boycott, they didn't have enough grades to confirm that I was able to graduate," Yusuf said. "We all paid as normal, just to get an email two weeks beforehand saying you can't come."

She said that while most of her family live in the U.K., other students are international and have paid for flights for their families to come from abroad. "It's really devastating," she said. Yusuf and the class of 2023 had already endured severe disruptions to their college experience. They entered university in 2020, at the height of COVID-19 lockdowns. Then came university staff strikes, part of a huge and ongoing wave of industrial action by hun-

dreds of thousands of U.K. workers to demand better pay amid a cost-of-living crisis.

Now thousands of students from Cambridge to Edinburgh are unable to graduate or face indefinite delays in receiving their final marks because of the latest labor dispute, which began in April and shows no sign of resolution.

It's not clear exactly how many students are affected, but the University and College Union, which represents academics and lecturers, estimated that "easily tens of thousands" will not graduate this summer as disruptions look likely to drag on into the next academic year.

Yusuf said at least 130 students from her faculty, the

school of English and Drama, have been affected, with many left in limbo because they have no idea when they can get the grades they need for pending job offers and post-

graduate study opportunities. The uncertainties have been particularly worrying for international students, who face additional complications and costs to remain in the U.K. □



Tanzil Chowdhury, senior lecturer in Public Law at Queen Mary University, sits at his university office during an interview at London's Queen Mary University, Thursday, August 3, 2023.

(AP Photo/Kwiyeon Ha)



# Thousands in Haiti march to demand safety from violent gangs as killings and kidnappings soar

By Evens Sanon  
Associated Press

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)**

— Several thousand people their faces covered to conceal their identities marched through Haiti's capital on Monday demanding protection from violent gangs who are pillaging neighborhoods in the capital Port-au-Prince and beyond.

Haitians' daily lives have been disrupted by incessant gang violence that has worsened poverty across the country as it awaits a decision from the U.N. Security Council over a potential deployment of an international armed force.

"We want security!" the crowd chanted as it marched for two hours from the troubled community of Carrefour-Feuilles to Champ de Mars in the downtown area and then to the prime minister's official residence, where police broke up the demonstration with tear gas.

"I can't work. I can't go out. I'm like a prisoner in my own home," said Wilene Joseph, a 36-year-old street



Protesters run for cover from tear gas fired by police during a protest against insecurity in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Monday, Aug. 7, 2023.

(AP Photo/Odelyn Joseph)

vendor and mother of two who joined the march out of frustration.

"I worry about my kids being shot because bullets are flying from all directions all the time," Joseph said of her children, ages 5 and 7. "The situation is unacceptable."

Since the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse

in 2021, experts say gangs have seized control of up to 80% of Port-au-Prince, killing, raping and sowing terror in communities already suffering endemic poverty. From January to March, more than 1,600 people have been reported killed, injured or kidnapped, a nearly 30% increase compared with the last three

months of 2022, according to the newest U.N. report. On Monday, UNICEF announced an "alarming spike" in kidnappings, with nearly 300 confirmed cases so far this year, almost equaling the number reported for all of last year, and almost three times the total for 2021.

The agency noted that

women and children are increasingly being kidnapped and used for financial or tactical gain. Among those kidnapped in late July was Alix Dorsainvil, a U.S. nurse from New Hampshire, and her young daughter.

Dorsainvil works for El Roi Haiti, a Christian organization that offers medical care, education and other services. She and her daughter remain in the hands of their captors, who are demanding \$1 million in ransom. Parents of young children are particularly fearful that gangs will snatch them when they go to and from school. Natcheline Nore, 40, said her two boys, ages 10 and 8, have to call her every day as soon as they step inside their school, and she rides back home with them every afternoon: "You don't know who's going to be the next target," she said.

Mario Jenty, a 36-year-old cell phone vendor who joined Monday's march, said the increase in kidnappings is pushing Haitians into even deeper poverty. □

## Panama criticizes Colombia for not helping stem record flow of migrants through Darien Gap

Associated Press

**PANAMA CITY (AP)** — Panama's top immigration official lashed out at Colombia on Sunday, saying it is not helping to slow the record flow of migrants through

the dangerous jungle of the Darien Gap.

Immigration Service Director Samira Gozaine said that in recent days, between 2,600 and 2,800 migrants per day have been

moving through the gap, which connects North and South America. In 2022, an average of about 700 migrants per day trekked through the roadless region.

In April, the United States, Panama and Colombia agreed to try to crack down on the smuggling rings that bring migrants through the gap.

But Gozaine said there has been a lack of information sharing and joint action on the part of Colombia.

"Instead of getting better, it has gotten worse, in spite of the negotiations with Colombia," Gozaine said. "There has been no agreement, no information sharing, nor any effort that might help Panama manage the unregulated flow,

which has grown considerably in recent days."

"Unfortunately, we have not been able to reach any agreement with Colombia, which continues to indiscriminately send us not only people from other countries, but Colombians as well," she added.

There was no immediate reaction from the Colombian government.

A joint statement issued after the April agreement said the U.S., Panama and Colombia would offer "new lawful and flexible pathways for tens of thousands of migrants and refugees as an alternative to irregular migration."

They also promised investment to reduce poverty and create jobs in Colombian and Panamanian bor-

der communities, presumably so fewer people work at smuggling migrants.

The number of migrants crossing the Darien Gap swelled to almost 250,000 in the first seven months of 2023, surpassing the number that crossed in all of 2022.

The United Nations projected that if the pace keeps up, as many as 400,000 may cross the gap by the year's end.

Migrants from South America mainly Venezuelans use the Darien Gap to travel by land through Central America and head on to the U.S. southwestern border. But a host of people from other places, including Africa and Asia, travel to South America to use the gap as well. □



Migrants walk across the Darien Gap from Colombia to Panama in hopes of reaching the U.S., May 9, 2023.

(AP Photo/Ivan Valencia, File)



## Alto Vista chapel and its link to Aruba's origins

According to Etnia Nativa, in the 18th century most of the inhabitants of Aruba were indigenous who lived on the north coast, one of the largest communities lived in Alto Vista.

As they were very religious, they had a chief with the name of Antonio Silvester who guided them in the Christian life and it was he who decided to build a stone chapel with a roof of corn rods, which would serve as a place of prayer. In 1750 it was blessed by Father Algamesi who came from Coro-Venezuela and appointed Domingo Antonio Silvester as the island's first prosecutor in the name of the Spanish crown and Rome. In 1752 the prosecution passed into the hands of Antonio Silvester's son-in-law, Miguel Álvarez, who continued to guide the parishioners in their prayers.

According to the book, The History of Alto Vista by R.H. Nooyen, it is not known



when Domingo Antonio Silvester came to Aruba from Venezuela. The elders believe Antonio was a Spaniard. In 1780, father Joseph Antonio de la Vegal called Bernardino Silvester, one of Antonio's sons with his wife Anna Cathalina Tromp, "neighbors and naturals of the island Aruba" and thus they became natives.

At the end of the eighteen century many inhabitants the island died as a result of the black fever epidemic and since people believed that the Alto Vista area was the most infected, they be-

gan to build their homes further south within the Noord area, so the town of Noord began to grow into a community till getting its own Church. However religious festivals continued to be celebrated at this sacred native place, with the custom of arriving in procession to Alto Vista.

Two-hundred years after the beautiful time of Alto Vista, people can no longer see much of the town of Alto Vista from 1750. With a lot of work they found the old foundations of the Church of the Queen of the Holiest Rosary to build a new chapel on the same place. The entire surrounding area was empty and desolated, making it hard to imagine that Alto Vista was a town at all. A hundred years later, people can see the remains of around twenty houses, some made of stone and others of clay. Nowadays, only around six of these houses remain.



South of the chapel in the yard two graves can be observed, there was the cemetery which father Pablo de Algemesi blessed. It is not certain, but it is believed that the two graves belong to Antonio Silvester and Miguel Alvares, according to Nooyen. About 50 meters near the chapel there are still the markings of an old house, where Antonio and Bernardino Silvester would have lived. About 200 meters from the chapel there is a water tank which the locals call

Tanki Cacique. In the past this tank was closed. But mostly water was brought out from the Poz di Noord, a well dug in the sand.

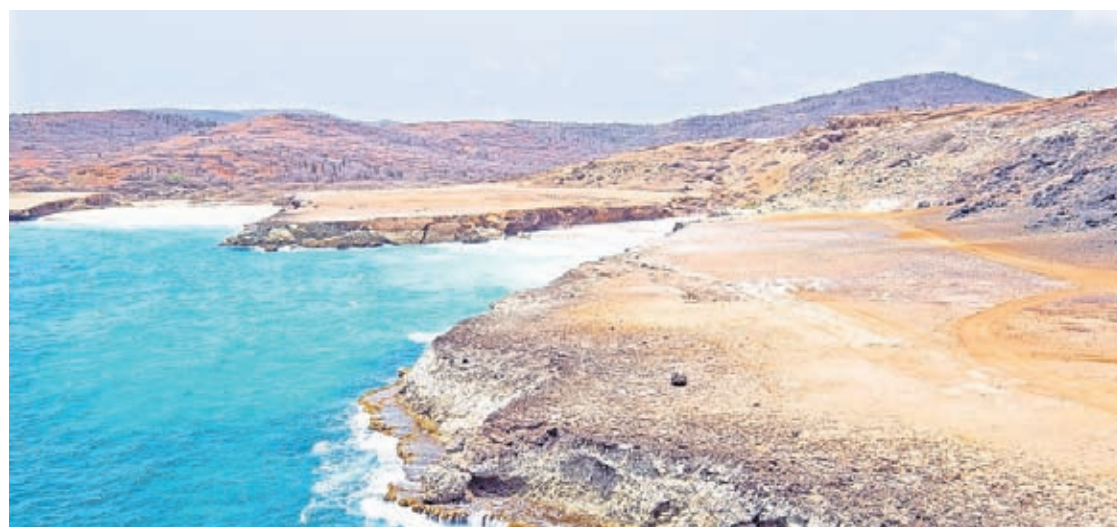
The chapel can be viewed from basically any point in the north side, even from Paradera and Sero Plat. All the historical remains around the chapel provide us with an idea on how the old people of Alto Vista used to live. Don't miss the opportunity to visit a place of historical significance with a window to Aruba's past. □

## Aruba's Bocas: home to the rarest fossil reefs on the planet!

(Oranjestad)—If you've been to the northern coast of Aruba already, you've probably noticed how the ground differs entirely from the sandy beaches on the southern part of the island. These hard surfaces, with sharp bumps and holes are actually fossilized coral reefs, of which its growth and changes can be traced back to the last glacial period.

On May 30 2023, geoscientists, Dr. Patrick Boyden

from the Marum research faculty at the University of Bremen, Prof. dr. Alessio Rovere from the Ca' Foscari University of Venice and Prof. dr. Gianfranco Scicchitano, from the University of Bari Aldo Moro, presented their research on these fossilized coral reefs at the University of Aruba. Their focus for their research included studying the health and formation patterns of these coral reefs, and to investigate how these reefs have responded and can

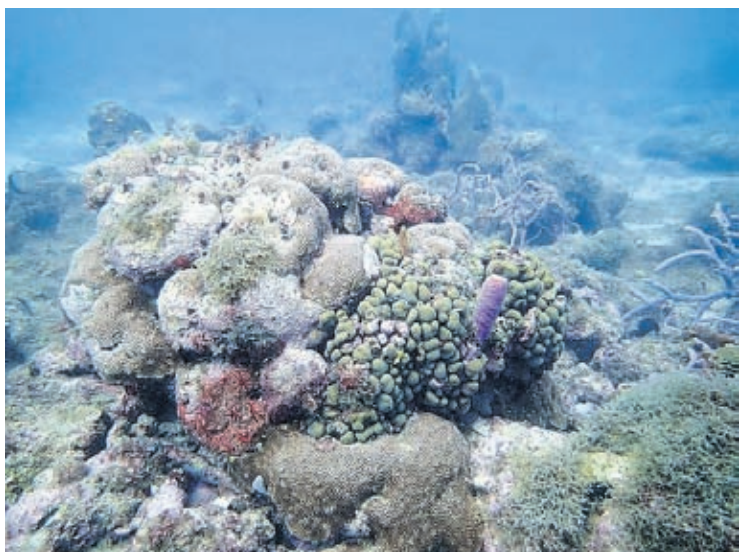


respond to fluctuating sea levels or extreme weather, like hurricanes and tsunamis.

Through underwater and land surveillance, and 3D models of the reefs, they were able to narrow down when these formations started to take place. They were also able to track the fluctuation of sea levels during the past hundred or even thousands of years, and the effects that this fluctuation has had on the coral reefs of the windward side of Aruba.

These findings can certainly put things into perspective. The ground on which we have walked many times in the northern part of the island hold such rich history, history that dates back to a time that most of us cannot even imagine. As the scientists themselves have pointed out, these fossilized reefs on the windward side are truly an incredible and rare remnant of geological history, as they provide a clear view of how these reefs have formed.

This research is also important for the future of coral reefs on the island. By studying rising sea levels and climate impact on these coral reefs, we are able to take concrete action in protecting and preserving our coral reefs. So, if you are ever visiting one of the bocas or driving along the northern part of the island, please be conscious to help protect our natural historical remnant. Oh, and wear (coral-friendly) sunscreen! □







## Enjoy a night of excitement, music, and acrobatics! Rhythms Circus Company Aruba is putting Aruba's name on the world stage



**Rhythms Circus Company Aruba is a talented group of young people working daily to present their art in the form of acrobatics, dancing, acting and singing. After an impactful participation in one of America's biggest talent shows, they are now bringing their amazing talent to Aruba!**

In a show full of light, music, and with performances to famous musical figures like Elvis Presley, Michael Jackson and Tina Turner, the group consisting of 15 people from various countries delights the audience with their artistic prowess at the Paseo Herencia Mall, every Wednesday and Friday starting at 7pm. Each day has a different show, so you can attend both nights for the complete experience!

The group, under the leadership of directors and creators Diego Jaramillo and Yamila Hernandez are opening the doors to the ballroom to our local audience as well as our visitors so that everyone can have the privilege of experiencing this wonderful show.

Hernandez explained that the idea for this project started in 2010 when she came to work in Aruba. After being on the island for a while she decided to stay and live here, and she met Diego Jaramillo, who is currently her partner. Together they came with the idea to establish a company together with other professional artists, with the goal of living from their art.

Hernandez says that the work is hard – all of the performers are professional artists, and while the production of the show is not a challenge for them, selling the idea proved difficult since at the time, there weren't any shows of its kind

on the island.

### America's Got Talent

Currently they are offering a show with music, choreography and at the end, they have a shocking acrobatics ending, one that was seen by thousands of people around the world when the group travelled to Los Angeles in the United States to represent Aruba in America's Got Talent. Hernandez said that the show was very important for them to meet the public present because people could experience this performance live and right before their eyes.

Their presentation in America's Got Talent "was incredible" and they were able to meet the jury and many other artists staying there for three months. But the exhaustion and physical toll was so great that Diego suffered an accident, and because of this, they had to cancel all future commitments.

"This is work for which you must have a lot of respect. Circus as such implies a lot of risk, we have to give all of ourselves, we need to be in a physical state where you cannot stop training, there needs to be steadfastness; but if you go past the limit, your body cannot handle it. It seems that during this tour we went over the limit and Diego was injured right when we had to go sign up for the next part of the tour with America's Got Talent. That was frustrating," Yamila explained.

Thanks to their performance in America's Got Talent, they received a lot of offers. However, before that they travelled to Hungary, to the Budapest Circus Festival, and afterwards they decided to return to and remain in Aruba to show their talents up close at home.

### Future projects

Next month in July the group is travelling to Italy to perform at the show "Tu si que vales", and in August they are travelling to France for the program "La France a un Incroyable Talent", completing their travels in November in China, to perform at the Wuqiao International Circus Festival.

Even so, "these are short tours of maximum two weeks, because we are com-



mitted to our show in Aruba," Yamila explained.

### Reservations and tickets

To make a reservation to see this incredible display of creativity and acrobatics, scan the QR code which will take you directly to their website for a booking. To find more information about RCCA, please visit their Instagram page @rccaruba.□





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## A brief history of the California Light House

(Oranjestad)—At the furthest western point of the island, there lies the tallest structure on the island: The California Light House. Standing on top of a limestone cliff, this lighthouse oversees the entire island, offering one of few best views of the island and the surrounding sea. It is also one of the few monuments that hold a rich history.

The lighthouse was constructed in between 1914-1916, and its first keeper was a young trained lighthouse keeper from Curaçao names Jacob Jacobs. Mr. Frederico Fingal was the last man to have occupied this position until 1962. Though his son, Mr. Romulo Fingal did not continue in his father's footsteps, he does have a special connection to the lighthouse. He sat down with our reporter and shared a bit of its history.

As Mr. Fingal explains, "In 1915, cargo donkeys were

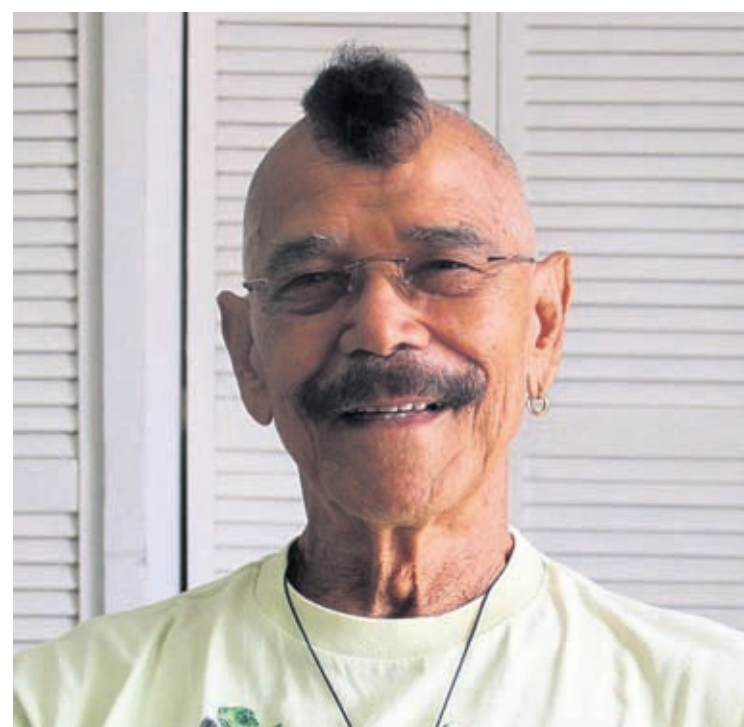
hired from Figaroa di Noord to help build the Light-house at Westpunt. The donkeys had to walk along the beach all the way to Westpunt carrying the cargo, poles, cement, and all these things. At that time, it was a difficult task until Aruba got its first truck. These things reflect how people could have accomplished this tremendous job with so little." Mr. Fingal said, "At that time, it wasn't a place for people to work. It was very challenging because it was full of goats and donkeys, and it was very isolated. There were no hotels or roads to get there. There was only a donkey trail. Those were the only means of transportation."

Mr. Fingal continues, "In 1939, I was born in the lighthouse, and my father was the last lighthouse keeper until he retired in 1962. After that, they removed the power cables all the way to the top. According to the story, we couldn't have

the light ourselves because they dismantled it, and after many years, I heard that it is in a train museum in San Nicolas, where we found this very special lens that, when the light shines through it, it reaches 30 kilometers out to sea." Mr. Fingal told our reporter.

The lighthouse has a long and very interesting history. The reason why the lighthouse was built, according to Mr. Fingal, dates back to the day when the cargo ship S.S. California sank because of the lack of light. In 1913, Aruba made a request to Curaçao to build a Lighthouse at Westpunt, and the governor of Curaçao responded to Aruba to come back in 1915 with a well-detailed plan. "During the First World War from 1914 to 1918, they had to wait for the light to be transported to Aruba because it was manufactured in France. At that time, there was no electricity, and the light was very interesting because it rotated with a kerosene lamp that planes used; clean kerosene," Mr. Fingal said.

Mr. Fingal discovered something very interesting about the lighthouse after much research was documented in his book 'History of the Lighthouse at Westpunt.' He found many details: "I found out that the height of the lighthouse was due to the absence of electricity. There was also the presence of coral. There is a long steel cable from where the light is, and



under the light, at the highest point, there is a hanging weight, a sort of pendulum that swings like that, with a weight that measures about 1 meter by 30 centimeters wide, which is a block of solid iron attached to a cable. When you release it upwards, it comes down, and the weight that comes down pulls it up, gradually. And while it comes down, the same weight that is descending causes many small wheels to turn in the opposite direction. The Lighthouse rotates from 6 pm in the evening, when the sun sets, until 6 am in the morning. During the entire night, the light shines on the lantern, it goes down 24 meters, and the Lighthouse is 30 meters high. It is designed not to collapse," Mr. Fingal explains.

Mr. Fingal further explains that in one night, the light-

house rotates 4,320 times and consumes one gallon of kerosene for the whole operation. "At that time, the kerosene was supplied from the Lago refinery. Every day it was brought down, and to start the light again, they had to lift the weight up, so our job as children was to crank it and raise the weight back up in the evening when the light stuck, they would take it down again, and the light stayed down. That's how it worked for a very long time," Mr. Fingal explains.

Thanks to the Monument Fund Aruba, which worked hard and is currently in charge of the Lighthouse, Mr. Fingal is very happy with its preservation, along with all the renovations that have taken place. He hopes that the story of the lighthouse will continue to live on for future generations. □





## Episode 31

# Island Insight Episode XXXII: Insular Alert II; Wara- Wara the Crested Caracara

**Our beautiful Crested Caracaras are less frequently encountered today in Aruba. However they are still common in South America. We recommend avoiding areas where they breed since this can affect researchers' ability to estimate population trends.**

Based upon Etnia Nativa's research, findings revealed that population has dropped by 50% since 1985, which indicates protection must be considered or even to be listed as a species that is very much threatened. Wara-wara, as we called this magnificent bird in Papiamentu, are resourceful animals that eat just about anything.

In the following sequence of four pictures, we can observe a breba cactus disappearing which had a long standing nest in it, while one bird is jumping around in stress around what once used to be its nest, then stands on the pile of the bulldozed cactus, only to fly away and contemplate the ongoing destruction with the rest of its family that lost their home to development.

From the moment we decided to develop our home into a top tourist destination, island officials had solely focused on the revenue this could generate for the island, and the money they can earn without much consideration for our



environment. This myopia has had devastating consequences that is blowing up in our face as we speak. We had to import thousands of workers that also only had the money they could send back home to their families in their country of origin in mind.

Many, who have had no formal education, come to compete with locals and could be exploited in a way locals reject for themselves. This unfortunate situation brought the need for more housing, more infrastructure and supporting development, which had its toll on our lives and on our fragile ecosystem. This form of exploitation of our island, by turning a blind eye to the essence of what we have had to share with our visitors, sincere friendliness, pristine ecosystem and a yearlong sunny climate is in danger of disappearing forever. At this

pace we are destroying our island's ecosystem at an unprecedented rate in the name of progress and threatening the survival of all species that only live on Aruba. The evidence is irrefutable. The destruction of our biodiversity and ecosystem services has reached levels that threaten our well-being our product, as much as human-induced climate change on the "disputed or controversial global warming effect."

With these words chair Robert Watson launched a meeting in Paris to agree the final text of a major U.N. report on the state of nature around the world – the biggest and most thorough assessment to date, put together by 150 scientists from 50 countries.

The report was mostly grim reading. We humans have already significantly altered three-quarters of all land and two-thirds of the oceans. More than a third of land and three-quarters of freshwater resources are devoted to crops or livestock.

Around 700 vertebrates have gone extinct in the past few centuries. Forty per cent of amphibians and a third of coral species, sharks and marine mammals look to follow. The main reason is simple: Our expanding neighborhoods and the number of hotels are leaving less space for wildlife. The other major

causes are the direct exploitation of wildlife by bulldozing everything to the ground, climate change, pollution and the spread of invasive species and burning down the Amazon is set to become ever more destructive.

In this episode I would like to dedicate a few words to a very special scavenger, a bird whose main job is to keep the island clean of dead carcasses which can spread disease. Our wara-wara or crested caracara is a bird of prey in the family Falconidae. It was formerly considered conspecific with the southern caracara and the extinct Guadalupe caracara as the "crested caracara". The name "caracara" is said to be of Caquetio Indian origin, Guara-wara derived from the unusual rattling vocalization that the bird utters when agitated.

The crested caracara is a bird of open habitats, typically grassland, prairie, pastures, or desert with scattered taller trees, shrubs, or mature candelabra cactus in which it nests.

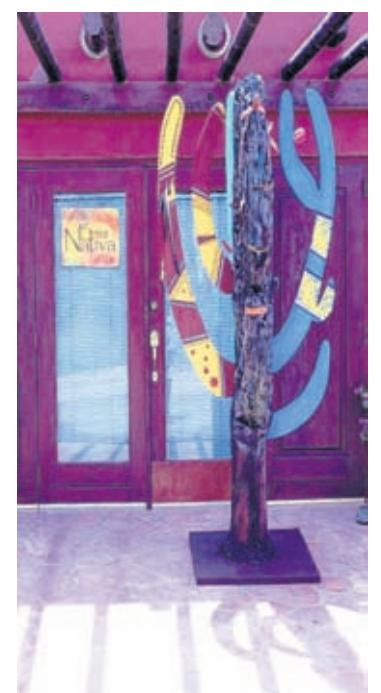
Adult pairs are generally monogamous, highly territorial and exhibit strong site fidelity. The young remain with their parents for several months after fledging, and at some sites two broods are raised per year. Non-breeding caracaras are consistently gregarious and nomadic, often con-

gregating in groups and roosting communally. They wade in shallow waters to grab fish, dig up turtle eggs with their feet, and turn over debris with feet to uncover insects or dead animals, specially goats and road kill. Their nesting period ranges between 42 to 56 days with clutches of 1 to 4 eggs.

Although populations on the island have received some recent attention by our curator at Etnia Nativa, the crested caracara is relatively un-studied throughout its range. Rapid urban development in and around the district of Noord has resulted in loss of many nesting habitats, and in 2004 this population was classified as threatened by Etnia Nativa studies, limiting expansion of the tourist industry, land-clearing, and habitat conversion could be beneficial to the species.

In some regions, direct human persecution continues, primarily by bulldozing mature candelabra cactus like the cadushi, *Stenocereus griseus* and the breba, *Cereus repandus*, shooting and even poisoning, mostly because of negative attitudes of non-islanders towards scavengers.□

**Source: Island Insight column by Etnia Nativa**





## Today Is Going To Be A Good Day



**Here's why: Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Yes, we know. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.**

### Nature Calls

The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. The guided tours are even free of charge. If you are

not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In Total the park consists of 7907 acres protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whip-tail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center. For more information, visit the website [www.arubanationalpark.org](http://www.arubanationalpark.org)

### Philip's Animal Garden

To stay with the animals, let's hop to an amazing place. Something different to do, an experience that is to be enjoyed by people of all ages. Welcome to Philip's Animal Garden. We are not talking about a zoo here, this is actually a sanctuary for all types

of creatures, from horses to peacocks, kangaroos to turtles, monkeys, goats, and many, many more different species. The place was founded in 2009 and it is the only organization rescuing and rehabilitating exotic animals in Aruba, which has resulted in an amazing collection of these animals. They provide a suitable living environment for all the rescued animals. Up until now the owner, Philip, has built this shelter with his own efforts; building all the cages from scratch, designing all structures and welding them with his own bare hands. His goal is to upgrade the facilities to a world-class animal shelter with veterinary care and round-the-clock staffs. With the input from the Aruban community and visitors they provide the best care for these animals. Please check out their website for more information: [www.philipsanimalgarden.com](http://www.philipsanimalgarden.com).

### The Lighthouse

No, you would not think

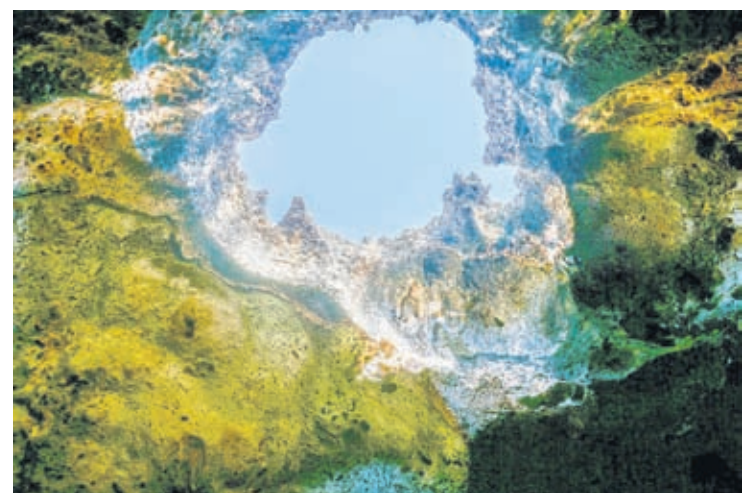


of this as a hidden gem. The California Lighthouse is actually one of the most known highlights in Aruba and many repeated guests most probably took the ride uphill already. But, there is a significant change to this tower. Since September 2016 you can climb the top. In 2015 Stichting Monumentenfonds started the restoration of the California Lighthouse. The project finished in September 2016 and the Lighthouse is now open for visitors to enjoy the beautiful view from the top. The construction of the California Lighthouse started in 1915. The name 'California' came from a vessel of the West India Company and Pacific Steamship Co. called 'California' that shipwrecked in the area in 1891. Therefore they came up with the idea of building a lighthouse that could indicate the island's east-

ern tip to ships with its light. [www.arubalighthouse.com](http://www.arubalighthouse.com) will give you more information.

### Kayak in the Mangroves

Mangel Halto at Savaneta is definitely a place not to miss out on. The beautiful beach with the natural mangroves is simply a beauty, but if you are into a more active way to enjoy the nature: take a kayak. While you are doing some workout -as it might get a little windy and rough-, you will see the island from a different perspective. You can even make a stop to do some snorkeling at the reef. Its fun, it's healthy and for sure something else. There are several companies that offer kayak tours, we had good experience with The Shack Kayak Tours Aruba, find them on Facebook. □





# CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

## ACROSS

- 1 Bravery
- 6 Hindu tunes
- 11 Peace goddess
- 12 Singer Piaf
- 13 Missy Elliott album
- 15 Penny prez
- 16 Metal source
- 17 Sandy color
- 18 Lumber producer
- 20 Three, in Torino
- 21 They hold power
- 22 Sacks
- 23 On the way out
- 26 Is furious
- 27 In the past
- 28 Fellow
- 29 Bullfight cry
- 30 Reason for overtime
- 34 — Jam (hip-hop record label)
- 35 Caribou's kin
- 36 102, in old Rome
- 37 Missy Elliott album
- 40 Pizzeria fixtures
- 41 Like lambs

- 42 Gaggle group
- 43 Consumerist Ralph

## DOWN

- 1 Travel papers
- 2 Curaçao's neighbor
- 3 Pepé of cartoons
- 4 Stop —
- 5 Making over
- 6 Drive off
- 7 Nabokov novel
- 8 Present attachment
- 9 Not in custody
- 10 Reserve

T	A	S	T	E	A	R	M	S
U	L	T	R	A	M	O	A	T
P	A	R	E	R	I	N	S	E
A	D	A	N	A	S	S	E	A
C	Y	P	R	E	S	S	H	I
U	S	S	E	V	I	L		
A	P	A	R	T	T	R	E	E
L	O	L	A	I	W	O		
P	U	B	L	I	C	E	N	E
A	R	E	M	E	L	L	I	E
C	O	R	F	U	F	L	O	R
A	U	T	O	S	T	Y	P	E
T	A	R	T	H	E	E	D	S

## Yesterday's answer

- 14 Web addresses, for short
- 19 Lode setting
- 22 Fire-cracker sound
- 23 Encouraging words to Spot
- 24 Taking a sabbatical
- 25 Navigable in winter, say
- 26 Founding member of Wu-Tang Clan
- 28 Factory
- 30 Make fun of
- 31 Bitter
- 32 Tigger's creator
- 33 Downy duck
- 38 USN rank
- 39 Eggs, to Caesar

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11					12				
13				14					
15			15				17		
18			19				20		
		21			22				
23	24	25			26				
27				28					
29			30				31	32	33
34			35				36		
37		38					39		
40					41				
42					43				

8-8

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

8-8

## CRYPTOQUOTE

XW OPKZRB BPDNRC EN KJ

NKRT KJVPBC KBJEUAR

BPKZRB KZPQ KJ NKRT PVPW

OBJX DK. — MENKDQ KBECPRE

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: SUMMER AFTERNOON — TO ME, THOSE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THE TWO MOST BEAUTIFUL WORDS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE. — HENRY JAMES

# Pregnant woman's arrest in carjacking case spurs call to end Detroit police facial recognition

By Joey Cappelletti

Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — A

Detroit woman is suing the city and a police officer, saying she was falsely arrested when she was eight months pregnant and accused of a carjacking based on facial recognition technology that is now the target of lawsuits filed by three Black Michigan residents.

Porcha Woodruff, a 32-year-old Black woman, was preparing her two children for school on Feb. 16 when six Detroit police officers showed up at her house and presented her with an arrest warrant for robbery and carjacking, according to a lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan on Thursday.

"My two children had to witness their mother being arrested," Woodruff said.



Porcha Woodruff poses on Monday, Aug. 7, 2023, in Oak Park, Mich.

(AP Photo/Carlos Osorio)

"They stood there crying as I was brought away." Woodruff's case was dismissed by the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office in March for insufficient evidence, according to the lawsuit. The lawsuit says that Woodruff has suffered, among other things, "past and future emotional distress" because of the arrest. □

## Classifieds

### House for sale

Alto Vista Noord  
3 BR 2 Bath  
Lease land nice view from the islands  
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1 BR , 1 Bath  
Ocean Front  
Price : \$ 800 K  
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johnnypaesch@gmail.com

# Troubled Toshiba announces buyout offer led by Japan businesses

By Yuri Kageyama

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Toshiba announced a 2 trillion yen (\$14 billion) tender offer on Monday in a move that would take it private, as the scandal-tarnished Japanese electronics and energy giant seeks to turn itself around.

The tender offer led by a buyout fund of major Japanese banks and companies called Japan Industrial Partners starts Tuesday and is priced at 4,620 yen (\$32) a share. Chairperson Akihiro Watanabe asked shareholders to back the proposal, saying it is the only option for Toshiba Corp. to return to its former strength.

"This move for Toshiba is great not only for Japan but also for the world," he said. "I have faith in the revival of Toshiba." □

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Room # 243 D ocean front  
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Gold season  
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Johnnypaesch@gmail.com

## La Quinta Beach Resort

Eagle Beach  
2 BR 2 Bath Week 30 and 31  
Room # 2307  
Price : \$ 8 K each  
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johnnypaesch@gmail.com  
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

## House For Sale

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Price : \$ 350 K  
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## House for sale

Saliña serka  
Fixer upper  
3 BR 2 Bath with apartment  
Price :\$325 K  
Call : 011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com  
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

## House for sale

Ruby  
3 BR 2 bath with apartment  
With pool  
Price :\$575 K  
Call :011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com  
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

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And the ocean luxury apartment  
1 BR \$ 280 PN  
2 BR \$500 PN  
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## Condo

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5 min walk to best beach in the Caribbean  
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## Property land

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5 min walk to palm beach  
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## Great investment opportunity

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Price : \$ 6,4 million American dollar  
Call : 011-297-630-1307  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

## Great investment opportunity

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Bubali Aruba  
Price : US 2,950,000,00  
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## CBS game show 'Superfan' celebrates musicians like Shania Twain, Kelsea Ballerini and Pitbull

By Mark Kennedy

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — CBS' latest game show doesn't ask its contestants to have any skills — no need to sing, dance, cook or pull a rabbit out of a hat. All it asks from its competitors is adoration: lots of it.

"Superfan," which premieres Wednesday, gathers one musical act and their fans each week into a studio and gradually whittles the contestants down to two, giving viewers the final say on who will be crowned the ultimate superfan.

"There's too many talent shows. It's too competitive. Some of us are not good at anything except loving the artist we love," says Keltie Knight, creator, executive producer and co-host. "This is not a talent show. This is a talent-less show."

"Superfan" has lured some starry first season guests: Kelsea Ballerini, Gloria Estefan, Little Big Town, LL Cool J, Pitbull and Shania



This image provided by CBS shows LL Cool J, right, and hosts Nate Burleson, from left, and Keltie Knight during an episode of the television game show "Superfan."

(Sonja Flemming/CBS via AP)

Twain. Contestants come from all over the country and even internationally; a Twain superfan from Brazil said her music helped him learn English.

The contestants are win-

nowed down over the course of an hour through a series of competitions: Recognizing a snippet of the star's song, identifying one of their iconic images and getting inside their

head for a multiple-choice question, like picking their singer's favorite Jennifer Lopez rom-com.

The final two try to impress the viewers and the artists by lip-syncing to one

of their hits. For the Twain show, that meant two contestants dressed in feather boas and top hats shimmying to "Man! I Feel Like a Woman!"

"I want the fans to have this opportunity to shine and to win, but it's just as much for the artists. I want the artists to have a safe place, like those amazing 'MTV Unplugged' sessions that were just like Kurt Cobain in a sweater and he's just playing for fans and he's able to look them in the eye and tell a story," Knight says. "That's the vibe we're going for."

In addition to the title, winners can get all sorts of perks, like tickets to upcoming concerts, plenty of merch, a private listen to an upcoming album, a signed guitar or a backstage VIP meet-and-greet.

Knight is a correspondent for E! News with a long history at the intersection of journalism and music, having formerly hosted "The Insider." □

## Tory Lanez is expected to be sentenced for shooting Megan Thee Stallion

By Jonathan Landrum and Andrew Dalton

Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Rap-  
per Tory Lanez could get a long prison term at his expected sentencing Mon-

day after felony convictions for shooting and wounding hip-hop star Megan Thee Stallion in the feet.

Los Angeles prosecutors are asking a judge to hand down a 13-year sentence

to the 31-year-old Lanez, whose legal name is Daystar Peterson.

They wrote in a sentencing memorandum that along with the crimes for which he was convicted, Lanez has re-traumatized Megan with social media posts about the case that emboldened many among his more than 2 million followers to attack her.

Megan may appear in court Monday to give a victim impact statement, or may have one read for her in her absence.

Lawyers for Lanez said in their own sentencing memo that he should get only probation and be released from jail to enter a residential substance abuse program.

They say the evidence that led to his conviction was "questionable at best" and that his lack of remorse

should therefore not be a factor in his sentencing. The memo says if the allegations were true, then alcohol abuse and childhood trauma would be factors.

Lanez has been jailed since a Los Angeles jury in December found him guilty of three felonies: assault with a semiautomatic firearm, having a loaded, unregistered firearm in a vehicle and discharging a firearm with gross negligence.

The reading of the verdict turned into a dramatic and chaotic scene when Lanez's father leapt up in the gallery and denounced the "wicked system" that convicted his son. Deputies dragged him from the courtroom as other Lanez supporters shouted about the unfairness of the case. The sentencing will be held on a higher security floor than the trial.

Megan testified during the trial that Lanez had fired the gun at the back of her feet and shouted for her to dance as she walked away from an SUV in which they had been riding in summer 2020. The pair had left a party at Kylie Jenner's Hollywood Hills home.

Superior Court Judge David Herriford, who will sentence Lanez, denied a motion from Lanez' defense attorneys for a new trial on May 9.

Lanez's lawyers had argued that a post from his Instagram account was improperly admitted into evidence. They said that Megan's testimony that Lanez urged her not to go to police because he was on parole and would be in serious trouble was both untrue and an improper allowance of prior bad acts. □



This combination photo shows Tory Lanez performing at the Festival d'été de Québec, July 11, 2018, in Québec City, Canada, left, and Megan Thee Stallion at the premiere of "P-Valley," June 2, 2022, in Los Angeles.

(Photos by Amy Harris, left, Richard Shotwell/Invision/AP, File)



## Browns defensive ends Alex Wright, Isaiah Thomas could miss significant time with knee injuries

By Tom Withers  
Associated Press

**BEREA, Ohio (AP)** — Cleveland's defensive line depth is suddenly a concern as second-year ends Alex Wright and Isaiah Thomas could miss significant time for the Browns with knee injuries.

Before Monday's practice, coach Kevin Stefanski revealed both injuries while providing few other details or a timetable for recovery. Stefanski did say the injuries could stretch into the regular season, which begins Sept. 10 against Cincinnati. Stefanski said one of the ends was injured in Thursday night's Hall of Fame game against the New York Jets and the other was hurt "before" that.

Wright and Thomas are listed as Cleveland's respective Nos. 4 and 5 ends be-



Cleveland Browns defensive end Isaiah Thomas (58) celebrates his fumble recovery with Alex Wright during the fourth quarter of an NFL football game on Oct. 23, 2022, in Baltimore.  
(AP Photo/Rich Schultz, File)

hind All-Pro Myles Garrett, Okoronkwo.  
Za'Darius Smith and Ogbo The Browns revamped their

defensive front this offseason Smith came via trade

and Okoronkwo as a free agent after the unit underperformed in 2022.

Wright and Thomas both missed Sunday's workout along with defensive tackle Maurice Hurst, who got poked in the eye.

Thomas, a seventh-round pick in 2022, was on the field for 25 plays against the Jets. Wright played 15 snaps.

Cleveland selected Wright, who played at UAB, in the third round in 2022. Thomas, a standout at Oklahoma, was picked in the seventh round that year.

The Browns signed end Charles Wiley to help offset the injuries.

He played at Texas-San Antonio and spent time with the Baltimore Ravens and New York Giants last season. □

## England advances at Women's World Cup by edging Nigeria after James red card

By John Pye  
Associated Press

**BRISBANE, Australia (AP)** — Down a player after star forward Lauren James was ejected, England was facing the prospect of an upset against Nigeria and a round-of-16 exit at the Women's World Cup. The European champion Lionesses remained calm enough to get through regulation and extra time at 0-0 and won a penalty shootout 4-2 to scrape into the quarterfinals on Monday. England became the title favorite after the two-time reigning champion U.S. was eliminated on Sunday in a penalty shootout loss to Sweden. No. 2-ranked Germany, Olympic champion Canada and Brazil didn't even reach the knockout stage. But the Lionesses struggled to create opportunities against Nigeria and, with five minutes remaining in regulation, an upset loomed when James received a red card after a

VAR review.

She initially was given a yellow card by referee Melissa Borjas after falling on top of Michelle Alozie and then stepping on the Nigeria defender.

The crowd groaned as slow-motion replays on the stadium screens showed the incident, and, after a delay of several minutes, the yellow card was upgraded to red.

British media instantly reacted by comparing it with David Beckham's red card for kicking out at Argentina's Diego Simeone at the 1998 World Cup in France. The red card means James will miss at least the quarterfinal and a potential semifinal.

But after a run of injuries to senior players and the loss of James, England coach Sarina Wiegman praised her team for adapting to every challenge.

The Lionesses immediately had to change formation in the 10-on-11 scenario, bringing on Chloe Kelly to

play a solo role up front. She kicked the final penalty to clinch the shootout win. Alozie was clear eight minutes into stoppage time but skewed her left-foot shot from seven yards wide of the post.

Veteran forward Asisat Oshoala forced a save from England goalkeeper Mary Earps deep in extra time.

After narrowly escaping with a win, England will meet Colombia or Jamaica in Sydney next Saturday in the quarterfinals.

Uchenna Kanu threatened with two headers in the second half, one just after the break that went just over the crossbar and another in the 72nd when she leaped to meet a corner kick but nudged it back past the near post.

Rachel Daly's powerful header as she ran into the box to meet a corner in the 75th was blocked by Chiamaka Nnadozie, who made two tremendous saves in the first half.

Nigeria had eight shots in

the first half and created the better chances, including Ashleigh Plumptre's running left-foot strike into the crossbar in the 17th minute and her right-foot shot moments later that forced a diving save from England keeper Mary Earps.

A half-hour in, England was awarded a penalty when Daly appeared to be bumped to the ground in the area by blue-haired

defender Rasheedat Ajibade, but it was overturned on VAR and brought a booming roar from the 49,461-strong crowd.

Oshoala went on as a substitute as the hour approached, with Nigeria aiming to reproduce the surge in attack her entry generated in the upset of Australia in the group stage. It generated more intensity but no goals. □



England's Chloe Kelly, right, celebrates after scoring the last goal during a penalty shootout at the Women's World Cup round of 16 soccer match against Nigeria in Brisbane, Australia, Monday, Aug. 7, 2023.

(AP Photo/Tertius Pickard)



# Mbappe's standoff with PSG continues amid report that Neymar now wants to leave the French club

By Jerome Pugmire  
Associated Press

**PARIS (AP)** — As Kylian Mbappe's transfer standoff with Paris Saint-Germain continues, it remains unclear if the star striker will even be in the squad when PSG begins its league season at home against Lorient on Saturday.

And now Neymar's future at the club suddenly looks uncertain as well.

France's leading sports daily L'Equipe reported on Monday evening that Neymar has told the club he wants to leave this summer, increasing the turmoil surrounding the defending French league champion.

PSG said the club would not comment on Neymar's situation, when contacted by The Associated Press.

The 31-year-old Neymar, who joined for a world record fee of 222 million euros (\$244 million) from Barcelona in 2017, is under contract until 2025.



PSG's Kylian Mbappe stops to sign autographs for fans as he leaves the Paris Saint-Germain training complex, Friday, July 28, 2023 in Poissy, outside Paris. Speculation is mounting as to where Mbappé will play his first game of the season.

(AP Photo/Lewis Joly)

Mbappe, who also joined in 2017, wants to play for PSG this season and then leave on a free transfer once his contract runs out, when he

could request a massive signing-on fee and a higher salary. He has been heavily linked with a move to Real Madrid.

Mbappe informed the club in June that he would not take up the extra year on his contract until 2025. PSG responded by insisting he

will be sold this summer to prevent him leaving for free at the end of the season, and left him out of a preseason tour to Japan and South Korea. Having already lost record seven-time Ballon d'Or winner Lionel Messi, PSG now seems to be in danger of losing its two remaining superstars as well. Messi's move to Inter Miami came after the Argentine World Cup winner decided not to sign a one-year contract extension PSG had offered him.

But after years of pandering to its star players, notably Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Neymar, PSG is showing a firm intent not to be pushed around. After being left out of the preseason tour, Mbappe posted a photo of himself online after training with some fringe players last week. He stopped to sign autographs as fans waited outside the club's training complex, on the outskirts of Paris. □

# Lucas Glover wins Wyndham Championship. Justin Thomas' season ends by inches

Associated Press

**GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP)** — Lucas Glover looked to the sky and held back tears after winning the Wyndham Championship on Sunday, sending him to the PGA Tour postseason with more opportunities ahead of him.

Justin Thomas fell to the

ground, stunned that his birdie chip hit the base of the pin and stayed out, leaving him out of the FedEx Cup playoffs by about the same small margin that kept his ball out of the cup. Such were the range of emotions at Sedgefield, the final tournament before the lucrative postseason for

the top 70 players. Glover is one of them, closing with a 2-under 68 for a two-shot victory over a faltering Russell Henley and Byeong Hun An. He started the week at No. 112, and the victory his first in two years moved him to No. 49. Another good week in Memphis, Tennessee, would set him up for the all the signature \$20 million events next year.

The timing couldn't have been better for the 43-year-old Glover. Sunday would have been the birthday of his late grandfather, who got him into the game and sent him to the late Dick Harmon to hone the skills of a future U.S. Open champion.

What he did was keep his poise amid a two-hour storm delay when he had four holes left and was locked in a battle with Henley. Glover finished with four pars, getting one good

break when his tee shot on the 18th bounced off a cart driven by security and went into the rough, keeping it out of the trees.

Thomas needed one more birdie to get into the top 70. His birdie chip checked and hopped against the base of the pin and stayed out. Standing at the back of the green, he saw a video board project him at No. 71. He missed by nine FedEx Cup points.

Now he has to wait three weeks to see if his worst season this is the first time Thomas has failed to make the playoffs will cost him a pick for the U.S. Ryder Cup team.

Glover now has five PGA Tour wins separated by 18 years, and there might not have been another except for deciding to switch to a long putter, a move inspired by Adam Scott. He had been battling the yips, and he made every im-

portant putt at Sedgefield Country Club.

It was the second time in three years that Henley let one get away at Sedgefield.

When play resumed, he took the lead with a two-putt birdie on the par-5 15th, and then everything went wrong in a bogey-bogey-bogey finish.

His mediocre tee shot on the par-3 16th came down the slope at the front of the green and took one more turn into a deep divot hole. He chopped that out to 35 feet and made bogey. He sent his tee shot on the 17th into the trees, and his next shot buried in a deep hole in thick rough. He had to scramble for bogey. He shot 69.

Henley tied for second with Byeong Hun An (67). Billy Horschel, who shared the 54-hole lead with Glover, didn't make a birdie until the final hole. □



Lucas Glover poses with the trophy after winning the Wyndham Championship golf tournament in Greensboro, N.C., Sunday, Aug. 6, 2023.

(AP Photo/Chuck Burton)